[8th August 1929

Assignment of lands to ex-military men.

*104 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state in view of the Budget debate on 12th March last on the claims of ex-military service men—combatant and non-combatant—to assignment of lands by relaxation of the rules as to time-bar—what orders Government have passed thereon ?

A.—The hon. Member's attention is invited to G.O. No. 758, Revenue, dated 16th April 1929. [a] The Government Order has been published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* and the District Gazettes and communicated to the principal newspapers.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" With reference to the term ' non-combatants who served in the Indian Army ' appearing in the appendix, may I ask whether it includes the camp followers like post-men who accompanied the Indian Army ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" I think they are not included."

Court of Wards and Zamindaris

Management of the Sivaganga zamindari.

*105 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) when the Sivaganga Zamindari was taken up for management under the Court of Wards and whether any period was then fixed for returning it to the Raja ;

(*b*) whether there were any debts due from the estate at the time it was taken up or whether there was any cash and if so, how much ;

(*c*) (i) whether the survey of the estate was taken up by the Court of Wards and if so, when, at what cost and at whose request ;

(ii) whether the Raja was consulted or whether he agreed to the survey ;

(*d*) (i) when the title of the Raja was conferred on the zamindar and why ;

(ii) whether he asked for it ;

(*e*) what was the annual income of the zamindari for every year from the time it was taken up by the Court of Wards till the survey and what has been the income for every year after the survey ;

(*f*) what were the amounts borrowed by the Court of Wards every year for the zamindari and what were the amounts, if any, paid towards the debts ;

(*g*) whether the Raja has expressed his readiness to arrange for the repayment of the loan at once if the zamindari is handed over to him and if so, why his request has not been granted ;

(*h*) who are the creditors and what rate of interest is being paid every year for the debts ; and

(*i*) whether the Government will be pleased to lay on the table a list of officers working in the zamindari under the Court of Wards and getting salaries of not less than Rs. 350 a month with their names, qualifications and salaries ?

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[a] Printed as Appendix XII on page 333 infra.

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A.—(*a*) The Sivaganga Zamindari was taken up for management by the Court of Wards in 1898. No period was then fixed for returning it to the Raja.

(*b*) The debt due by the estate was Rs. 1,11,252 and the cash balance was Rs. 256.

(*c*) (i) The survey was taken up in 1920 at the instance of the Estate Collector. The cost of the survey was Rs. 13,25,020.

(ii) The Government have not the information.

(*d*) (i) & (ii) The title was conferred on the 3rd June 1924. The Government have no information on the other point in the question.

(*e*) & (*f*) A statement is appended.[a]

(*g*) The Raja has so expressed himself but has not so far indicated to Government any practicable method of discharging the debt due by the Estate.

(*h*) The existing debts are due to the Imperial Bank of India. The rate of interest is 7 per cent per annum.

(*i*) —

Names.	Qualifications.	Salaries.
		RS.
(1) Mr. E. R. Wood ...	I.C.S. Permanent Sub-Collector.	1,925
(2) Mr. E. D. Philip ...	B.A.	480
(3) M.R.Ry. G. Ramachandra Ayyar Avargal.	B.A. A qualified Civil Engineer.	550

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" May I know, with reference to clause (*e*) of this question, whether survey alone has been completed or whether the preparation of record of rights and settlement of rents have also been completed ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" The commutation has been completed."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" May I know whether it is commutation under Chapter XI of the Estates Land Act or commutation under private settlement."

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" It is a private settlement."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" May I know the reason for the abnormal increase in the income of the estate from a few lakhs in the year when the survey was begun to 12, 14 and 16 lakhs at present ? May I know whether private settlement of commutation had anything to do with this abnormal increase in the income of the estate ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" I must ask for notice of the question. I understand the hon. Member wants to know why there was an increase from 12 lakhs in 1918 to about 16 lakhs in 1927–28. I must ask for notice of the question."

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[a] Printed as Appendix IV on page 334 infra

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Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" Sir, the income is much less than 12 lakhs in 1918 and may I know whether the Government have enquired into the causes of this increase and whether any representations have been made by the ryots in regard to this matter? A number of representations have been received by members of the House."

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" I am not aware of any representation, but, if the hon. Member will give notice, I shall enquire ? "

Irrigation

Need for protective works with regard to the sliding of Godavari bank near Kapileswarapuram agraharam.

* 106 Q.—Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Godavari bank and the river margin near the village of Kapileswarapuram Agraharam between 16th and 17th miles lower down Dowlaishwaram has been sliding and the village is in imminent danger ;

(b) whether, with a view to prevent erosion and sliding at the spot, provision has been made for constructing a revetment and digging a channel in the sand shoals of the river ;

(c) whether it is a fact that on 2nd May there was a sudden sinking and sliding of the bank and the margin and whether the Superintending Engineer visited the spot and recommended the protective works to be undertaken immediately ;

(d) whether it is a fact that such protective works have got to be begun and completed before the flood season begins in the middle of June ;

(e) whether the action of the river, if not properly checked, is a source of danger not only to the village, but to a large portion of the delta area ; and

(f) whether in view of the imminent nature of the danger the Government would issue instructions to take up protective works immediately ?

A.—(a) The left flood bank of the Gowtami Godavari between 16/0 and 16/7 miles was diverted two years ago as there was not sufficient margin between the deep course of the river and the bank. There is a tendency for the margin to slip in this length and there are three places where the sliding action is most marked. One of the slips has been protected and the other two will be, this year. The village is situated in three different sites and only a small part of it lies between the old and diverted flood banks and is liable to be affected by erosion.

(b) There are two current estimates to protect the bank in this portion, one for protecting the slips, at a cost of Rs. 40,400 and the other for connecting the high level ' paya ' with the river, at a cost of Rs. 5,900. Revetment is provided for in the former.

(c) & (d) The Government are not aware on what particular day the sinking and sliding occurred, but the Superintending Engineer visited the spot on the 15th May 1929 and issued instructions for the necessary works to be carried out.